

about the employing office's veterans' preference policies as they relate to appointments to covered positions, and shall describe the employing office's procedures for making such requests.

(c) Upon written request by an applicant for a covered position, an employing office shall provide the following information in writing:

(1) the VEOA definition of veterans' "preference eligible" as set forth in 5 U.S.C. §2108 or any superseding legislation, providing the actual, current definition in a manner designed to be understood by applicants, along with the statutory citation;

(2) the employing office's veterans' preference policy or a summary description of the employing office's veterans' preference policy as it relates to appointments to covered positions, including any procedures the employing office shall use to identify preference eligible employees;

(3) the employing office may provide other information to applicants regarding its veterans' preference policies and practices, but is not required to do so by these regulations.

(d) Employing offices are also expected to answer questions from applicants for covered positions that are relevant and non-confidential concerning the employing office's veterans' preference policies and practices.

SEC. 1.119. INFORMATION REGARDING VETERANS' PREFERENCE DETERMINATIONS IN APPOINTMENTS.

Upon written request by an applicant for a covered position, the employing office shall promptly provide a written explanation of the manner in which veterans' preference was applied in the employing office's appointment decision regarding that applicant. Such explanation shall include at a minimum:

(a) the employing office's veterans' preference policy or a summary description of the employing office's veterans' preference policy as it relates to appointments to covered positions; and

(b) a statement as to whether the applicant is preference eligible and, if not, a brief statement of the reasons for the employing office's determination that the applicant is not preference eligible.

SEC. 1.120. DISSEMINATION OF VETERANS' PREFERENCE POLICIES TO COVERED EMPLOYEES.

(a) If an employing office that employs one or more covered employees provides any written guidance to such employees concerning employee rights generally or reductions in force more specifically, such as in a written employee policy, manual or handbook, such guidance must include information concerning veterans' preference under the VEOA, as set forth in subsection (b) of this regulation.

(b) Written guidances described in subsection (a) above shall include, at a minimum:

(1) the VEOA definition of veterans' "preference eligible" as set forth in 5 U.S.C. §2108 or any superseding legislation, providing the actual, current definition along with the statutory citation;

(2) the employing office's veterans' preference policy or a summary description of the employing office's veterans' preference policy as it relates to reductions in force, including the procedures the employing office shall take to identify preference eligible employees.

(3) the employing office may provide other information in its guidances regarding its veterans' preference policies and practices, but is not required to do so by these regulations.

(c) Employing offices are also expected to answer questions from covered employees that are relevant and non-confidential con-

cerning the employing office's veterans' preference policies and practices.

SEC. 1.121. WRITTEN NOTICE PRIOR TO A REDUCTION IN FORCE.

(a) Except as provided under subsection (c), a covered employee may not be released due to a reduction in force, unless the covered employee and the covered employee's exclusive representative for collective-bargaining purposes (if any) are given written notice, in conformance with the requirements of paragraph (b), at least 60 days before the covered employee is so released.

(b) Any notice under paragraph (a) shall include—

(1) the personnel action to be taken with respect to the covered employee involved;

(2) the effective date of the action;

(3) a description of the procedures applicable in identifying employees for release;

(4) the covered employee's competitive area;

(5) the covered employee's eligibility for veterans' preference in retention and how that preference eligibility was determined;

(6) the retention status and preference eligibility of the other employees in the affected position classifications or job classifications within the covered employee's competitive area, by providing:

(A) a list of all covered employee(s) in the covered employee's position classification or job classification and competitive area who will be retained by the employing office, identifying those employees by job title only and stating whether each such employee is preference eligible, and

(B) a list of all covered employee(s) in the covered employee's position classification or job classification and competitive area who will not be retained by the employing office, identifying those employees by job title only and stating whether each such employee is preference eligible.

(7) a description of any appeal or other rights which may be available.

(c) The director of the employing office may, in writing, shorten the period of advance notice required under subsection (a), with respect to a particular reduction in force, if necessary because of circumstances not reasonably foreseeable.

(d) No notice period may be shortened to less than 30 days under this subsection.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4759. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4753 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) to the bill H.R. 4853, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4760. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 372, to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosures of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel, and for other purposes.

SA 4761. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4753 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) to the bill

H.R. 4853, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4762. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4753 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) to the bill H.R. 4853, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4763. Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4753 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) to the bill H.R. 4853, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4759. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4753 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) to the bill H.R. 4853, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE —OIL RECOVERY ZONE

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Oil Recovery Zone Act".

SEC. 2. RECOVERY ZONE; GULF OIL SPILL.

For purposes of this title—

(1) **RECOVERY ZONE.**—The term "Recovery Zone" means the following counties and parishes under the unified Coast Guard command that responded to the Gulf oil spill:

(A) The counties of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, Franklin, and Wakulla in the State of Florida.

(B) The counties of Mobile and Baldwin in the State of Alabama.

(C) The counties of Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson in the State of Mississippi.

(D) The parishes of Orleans, St. Tammany, St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, Lafourche, Terrebonne, St. Mary, Iberia, Vermilion, and Cameron in the State of Louisiana.

(2) **GULF OIL SPILL.**—The term "Gulf oil spill" means the discharge of oil by reason of the explosion on, and sinking of, the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon.

SEC. 3. NON-RECOGNITION OF INCOME FROM INSURANCE PROCEEDS WHICH ARE REINVESTED IN THE RECOVERY ZONE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, amounts received from any qualified Gulf oil spill payment shall be recognized only to the extent that the amount realized exceeds the qualified investments made by the taxpayer with respect to such qualified Gulf oil spill payment.

(b) **QUALIFIED GULF OIL SPILL PAYMENT.**—For purposes of this section, the term "qualified Gulf oil spill payment" means—

(1) any proceeds or payments from insurance received in connection with the Gulf oil spill, or

(2) any payment for damages attributable to the Gulf oil spill under section 1002 of the